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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY STATES PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 16 AND 17 OF THE COVENANT

Follow-up to the consideration of reports under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its fourteenth session, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, recognizing the importance of periodically reviewing the implementation by States parties of its suggestions and recommendations, requested the Secretariat to submit to it, as from the fifteenth session, a document indicating all cases where a follow-up had been suggested by the Committee.

2. The information requested by the Committee is to be found in the annex to the present note.

GE.98-17085 (E)

Annex

FOLLOW-UP BY STATES PARTIES TO THE CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
(status as at 15 July 1998)

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Dominican Republic	E/1990/6/Add.7 E/C.12/1996/SR.29 and 30 E/C.12/1/Add.6	The Committee invited the State party to confirm publicly its commitment to implement its binding human rights treaty obligations. It strongly called upon the Government of the State party to honour its obligations under the Covenant, particularly through maintaining the proper direct and constructive dialogue with the Committee as called for in the Covenant. The Committee proposed to adopt its final concluding observations in relation to the State party at its sixteenth session; for that reason the present concluding observations would be considered "preliminary", pending further consideration of the report based on a dialogue with representatives of the State party at its sixteenth session (concluding observations, para. 26).	28 April-16 May 1997	Final Concluding observations were adopted by the Committee at its seventeenth session (17 November - 5 December 1997), E/C.12/1/Add.16.

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee further recommended that the State party provide it with written replies to the concluding observations adopted at its eleventh session (E/C.12/1994/15), in particular with regard to its request that the State party invite representatives of the Committee to visit the Dominican Republic; the written list of issues drawn up with respect to the third periodic report (E/C.12/1995/LQ.7); information contained in the document "The Dominican Republic: an independent report submitted to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by the International Women's Rights Action Watch" (concluding observations, para. 28).	28 April-16 May 1997	1. The State party invited representatives of the Committee to visit the Dominican Republic (note verbale of 28 April 1997) 2. Written replies to the list of issues submitted 23 April 1997
		The Committee requested the State party to submit the information referred to in the preceding paragraph by 15 February 1997 in order to allow the Committee to consider that information at its sixteenth session (concluding observations, para. 29).	28 April-16 May 1997	The Committee welcomed the resumption of dialogue with the Dominican Republic ... and the submission by the State party of comprehensive written answers to its List of issues.
		The Committee strongly recommended that the specific information requested above be presented to the Committee at its sixteenth session by an expert delegation (concluding observations, para. 30).	28 April-16 May 1997	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
				The Committee also welcomed the appearance before it of an expert and a high-level delegation from the capital, which allowed for a fruitful and constructive dialogue to be conducted (E/C.12/1/Add.16, para. 1, 3 December 1997).
El Salvador	E/1990/5/Add.25 E/C.12/1996/SR.15, 16, 18 E/C.12/1/Add.4	Further information was requested on articles 6-8 and 15 of the Covenant, as well as on any problems encountered in that regard (concluding observations, para. 36).	31 Oct. 1996	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		Information was requested on the activities of the Office of the Procurator for the Defence of Human Rights, in particular on how much weight its recommendations carried and on the action taken on complaints it filed with regard to violations of economic, social and cultural rights, information enabling the Committee to evaluate the extent to which the members of indigenous communities enjoyed all the economic, social and cultural rights provided for in the Covenant (concluding observations, paras. 28 and 35).	Next report	
		The proposal of the Centre for Human Rights concerning technical cooperation should be given favourable consideration and such assistance used to guarantee the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by all (concluding observations, para. 39).		Within the framework of project ELS/95/AH/10 (1997/98)

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Guinea	Without report E/C.12/1996/SR.17, 22 E/C.12/1/Add.5	The Committee reiterated its request that the Government of Guinea actively participate in a constructive dialogue with the Committee on how the obligations arising from the Covenant could be fulfilled in a more adequate manner. It called to the Government's attention the fact that the Covenant created a legal obligation for all States parties to submit periodic reports and that Guinea had been in breach of this obligation for many years (concluding observations, para. 25). The Committee recommended that the Government of Guinea avail itself of the advisory services of the Centre for Human Rights in order to enable it to submit as soon as possible a comprehensive report on the implementation of the Covenant, in conformity with the revised general guidelines adopted by the Committee in 1990 (E/C.12/1991/1) and with particular emphasis on the issues raised and concerns expressed in the concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 26).		

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee encouraged the Centre for Human Rights to make available, through its programme of advisory services and technical assistance, expert assistance to States for the purpose of formulating policies on economic, social and cultural rights, and developing the implementation of coherent and comprehensive plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as developing adequate means of evaluating and monitoring their realization (concluding observations, para. 27).		
Honduras	E/1997/22, para. 391 Letter from the Government of Honduras, January 1997	Request for technical assistance	May 1997	Assistance provided, March 1997. Initial report received 2 April 1998
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	E/C.12/1/Add.15	The Committee requested that the State party provide the Committee with all of the written answers promised by the delegation, and that the State party's second periodic report contain more information regarding actual practice and the effective implementation of the rights guaranteed by the Covenant and include information on action taken with regard to the present concluding observations (concluding observations, para. 25).	Second periodic report	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Nigeria	E/C.12/1/Add.23 May 1998	The Committee urges in the strongest terms that union leaders and their rank and file members, including in particular those named in paragraph 17 above, who have been imprisoned without being charged or tried, be freed immediately (concluding observations, para. 37).	Urgently	
Paraguay	E/1990/5/Add.23 E/C.12/1996/ SR.1, 2, 4 E/C.12/1/Add.1	The Committee requested the State party to provide it with written replies to the unanswered questions from the list of issues (concluding observations, para. 32).	31 Oct. 1996	
		The next report should fill in the information gaps identified during the consideration of the initial report by the Committee (i.e. detailed information on the full implementation of legislative and administrative measures relating to prevention and enforcement in respect of safe and healthy working conditions; cases in which the Covenant has been invoked in the courts) (concluding observations, para. 32).	30 June 1999	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Peru	E/C.12/1/Add.12	The Committee called upon the State party to submit as soon as possible all the relevant information which it had failed to provide during the consideration of its report. The State party should, in particular, give detailed information on the legislative and other measures and practices adopted in connection with the right to adequate housing and the right to social security, particularly in relation to the functioning of the pensions system (concluding observations, para. 40).	As soon as possible	The requested information was provided on 2 December 1997 and 18 February 1998.
Portugal (Macau)	E/1990/6/Add.8 E/C.12/1996/SR.31-33 E/C.12/1/Add.9	The Committee took note of the readiness of the State party to provide it with additional information in reply to the concerns expressed by it in the course of the discussion, and recommended that in its replies the State party pay particular attention to the issue of family reunification and to the legislative provisions safeguarding the principles of ILO Conventions No. 103 and No. 138 and their practical applications (concluding observations, para. 16).	1 May 1997	

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
		The Committee recommended, in view of the lack of sufficient information provided by the State party, that detailed information be provided on measures taken to implement the provisions of article 10. In that connection, the attention of the State party was drawn to the relevant parts of the Committee's revised guidelines regarding the form and contents of reports to be submitted by State parties (concluding observations, para. 18). The Committee strongly urged the Portuguese Administration to take all necessary measures to ensure that the reports under the Covenant were submitted after 1999 (concluding observations, para. 24).	1 May 1997	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Hong Kong	E/1994/104/Add.10 E/C.12/1996/SR.39, 41, 42 and 44 E/C.12/1/Add.10	The Committee requested that, within 45 days, it receive a comprehensive response to its inquiry regarding three Vietnamese refugees who had been denied medical and dental treatment, mainly for refusing to return voluntarily to Viet Nam (concluding observations, para. 42).	27 Jan. 1997	Response received on 23 Jan. 1997

State party	Report/summary records/concluding observations	Follow-up measures requested	Deadline	Action taken
Zimbabwe	E/C.12/1/Add.12	The Committee reminded the State party that, as a signatory to the Covenant, it was committed to ensure compulsory, free primary education to all children in Zimbabwe. Even though the Committee was aware of the current difficulties in Zimbabwe and the State party's efforts in that field, the Committee invited the State party to submit to it within a year a plan of action and a progress report as to the implementation of this obligation (concluding observations, para. 22).	16 May 1998	
		Bearing in mind that members of the Committee requested specific information that was not provided during the examination of the State party's report, in particular on the cultural situation and the participation of minority groups in cultural life, the Committee urged the State party to submit the requested additional information and statistics within three months of receipt of the Committee's concluding observations, and in any event prior to the Committee's seventeenth session (concluding observations, para. 23).	20 Aug. 1997	